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REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA,

FOR THE

SCHOLASTIC YEARS

—OF—

—1880-81 AND 1881-82.—

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:

ALLRED & BEERS, STATE PRINTERS:

1882.

REPORT.

To the General Assembly of Alabama:

The undersigned Committee, appointed by the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama to prepare and present to the General Assembly the report required by the act incorporating said University, have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report:

Since the date of our last report the institution has pursued the even tenor of its way, without any occurrences of an unusual or special character. During this period the plans of the Board of Trustees have gradually and satisfactorily developed; the standard of scholarship has been elevated; and a new department added to the scientific course. The attendance has been as full as could be comfortably accommodated; and the proficiency and discipline maintained have been marked and effective.

To escape the heated term encountered, almost invariably, during the commencement exercises in July, we tried the experiment of beginning the sessions about the middle of September instead of the first of October, and closing about the middle of June. The result, as regards both the health of the cadets and the comfort of visitors, has been so favorable, that the change will probably be made permanent.

The whole number of students taught in the University, during the scholastic year of 1880-81, was one hundred and sixty. Of these, one hundred and forty-five were academic students, and fifteen were students in the law department: four students were dismissed for breaches of discipline, four were withdrawn by their parents, on the request of the faculty, for want of adequate preparation or diligence, and five resigned on account of ill health, and three to enter the national schools at West Point and Annapolis. In the academic department there were ten students from other States or countries, viz: four from Mississippi, three from Missouri, one from Arkansas, one from Indian Territory, and one from British Honduras; and, in the law department, one student was from Nevada.

The degree graduates in 1881 were nine Bachelors of Arts,

sixteen Masters of Arts, and thirteen Bachelors of Laws. Fifty-four students distinguished themselves by obtaining 90 per cent., or over, of all the merit marks attainable by them in the studies pursued, and had their names enrolled on the roll of distinguished students.

During the scholastic year of 1881-82, the number of matriculates was one hundred and fifty-four. Of these, one hundred and thirty-eight were academic, and fifteen were law students. Of the matriculates, one hundred and forty-five were from Alabama, one from Mississippi, three from Missouri, two from Texas, one from Georgia, one from Indian Territory, and one from British Honduras. Divided into classes, there were eighteen seniors, twenty-seven juniors, forty-six sophomores, forty-five freshmen, three graduated students pursuing an extended course, and fifteen law students. The degree graduates in 1882 were, Bachelors of Arts, eleven; Masters of Arts, two; Bachelors of Engineering, four; and Bachelors of Laws, twelve. The roll of distinguished students for the year contained the names of thirty from the academic, and twelve from the law department.

The withdrawals embraced seven on account of ill health, two dismissed for breaches of discipline, one to accept an appointment to West Point Military Academy, and six for failure to make satisfactory progress in their studies.

There were two periods of unusual sickness during the two years under review—the first in the spring of 1881, consequent, it is supposed, upon the severity of the preceding winter; and the second in the autumn of the same year, owing, doubtless, to the protracted summer. In the former case, although the number of the sick was large, and some of the diseases severe and obstinate, such were the superior advantages of the hospital, the skill of the surgeon, and, more than all, the devoted and unwearied care of the accomplished matron in charge, that the ordeal was passed without the loss of a single life. In the latter case, the students attacked had been much exposed during the heat of summer, and their systems charged with malaria before they came to the University, and among them eight cases of typho-malarial fever were developed soon after their arrival. Surgical skill and careful nursing were again, under the blessing of Divine Providence, successful in conquering the disease, and in restoring the patients to health.

At their annual meeting, in July, 1881, the trustees determined to revive the school of Civil Engineering, which had been allowed to lapse; and, as it was uncertain about the attendance and the requirements of the school, it was temporarily placed under the care of the professor of mathematics, who was allowed a tutor, to enable him to devote the necessary time to its organization.

The result far exceeded expectation, and the prospects of the school were so flattering, the board determined to create a separate chair of civil engineering, and called to it, from his practical work in Mexico, Colonel Robert A. Hardaway, formerly the accomplished and popular professor of civil engineering in the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn. Under his skilful guidance, and practical and theoretical knowledge, we may reasonably expect this to become one of the most useful and popular schools of the University.

Having passed in brief review the general history of the University for the period embraced in this report, we proceed to give a summary of its financial condition, referring to the full exhibits hereto appended, marked A, B, C, D, E, for the statistics in detail.

The University Fund is made up of the interest received, semi-annually, from the State, the fees received for tuition, and the rent of University lands; and is applied to the payment of the salaries of professors, the actual expenses of the trustees, the repairs of the buildings, and all other expenditures not properly chargeable to the cadet fund.

The receipts on account of the University Fund for the fiscal year 1880-81, including the balance on hand on June 30th, 1880, were\$25,464 39
And the disbursements for the same time were..... 23,609 63

Leaving balance on hand.....\$ 1,854 76

The receipts from all sources for the fiscal year of 1881-2, including the last balance, were.....\$27,280 39
And the expenditures during same year were..... 21,561 61

Leaving balance on hand at the end of 1881-2.....\$ 5,718 78

THE CADET FUND.

Accounts in this fund are kept by both the treasurer and the quartermaster, but the receipts and disbursements all pass through the hands of the treasurer. The accounts and books of the treasurer show that the receipts on account of this fund for the year 1880-81, including balance on hand on June 30, 1880, were\$18,180 33
The disbursements for same time were..... 16,430 39

Leaving balance on hand June 30, 1881.....\$ 1,749 94

The receipts for 1881-2, including last balance, were...	\$16,595 40
And disbursements for same time were	17,176 74

Showing disbursements in excess of receipts of.....	\$ 581 34
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It will be seen by reference to the exhibits, that the expenditures on account of the Cadet Fund during the two years under review, not only exceeded the receipts, but consumed the surplus from former years, and left that fund in debt to the treasurer to the amount of \$581 34. By a careful study of Exhibits D and E, containing a detailed account of the expenditures, it will be seen that the exhaustion of this fund was due, in the main, to the great increase in the cost of provisions. To meet this deficiency and prevent a recurrence, the board, at its last meeting, advanced the price of board to a figure which, it is believed, will make this department, as it has been the policy of the trustees to make it, self-sustaining. The price of board was not advanced earlier, because, until the end of the year 1881-2, there had been no deficit in this fund, and the trustees could not foresee the advance in the price of provisions; and because it has been their fixed policy, from the time they assumed the trust committed to them, to put the cost of University education at the lowest figure, consistent with thorough instruction, discipline, and an abundance of good and nutritious food, so as to put the advantages of that education in reach of the greatest number of the young men of the State.

This report would be incomplete and our duty but half performed, if we failed to press upon the attention of the General Assembly the causes which, in our judgment, retard the growth and limit the usefulness of the University, and which, unless removed, will permanently obstruct its progress. The Board of Trustees are not beggars knocking importunately and unseasonably at the door of the State treasury, but are the creation of the General Assembly, were nominated by the Governor and approved by the Senate, as a fit body to be the ear, eye and hand of the assembly, through which the legislative mind is informed, the legislative will executed, and its pecuniary donations and allowances dispensed and administered in all that concerns the University—the crowning glory of the highest and grandest trust committed to the State—the education of its sons. With no motive but fidelity to our duty, and no interest or reward except what should be common to every enlightened citizen of the State, we proceed to detail the most pressing needs of the University.

The first and most important need is the completion of the unfinished building upon the original, or a modified plan, or the erection of an additional building adjacent to the present struc-

ture, as investigation shall prove the most feasible, due regard being had to economy, duration and fitness. The building now in use is only the rear portion and a part of the two sides of the structure as originally planned, was not constructed or adapted for many of the uses to which it is now put, and its use, except as barracks, messroom, and recitation rooms was only a makeshift until the building could be completed. It presents an unfinished and ungainly front, and, in appearance, is so inferior to university buildings in other States, that the remembrance of the past glories of the University (swept away by the flames of civil strife,) and the prostrated condition of State and people at the end of that strife, alone prevent the condition of the buildings and grounds from being a reproach to the great State whose name it bears. But while want of proportion and finish offend against good taste, and are not in harmony with the chaste studies and pursuits of the college curriculum, we would make no appeal on that account if the building, in the indispensable matters of capacity and adaptability, was adequate to present urgent demands. On these vital matters we quote from a late communication made to the board by President B. B. Lewis: "I consider the completion of our present building, or the erection of an additional one, as not only necessary for the future growth of the University, but indispensable to its present usefulness. We are now over-crowded, having as many as four and five students in the same room, thus creating discomfort and interruption in study upon their part, and a want of incentive upon the part of the authorities to increase our numbers. We have no suitable place for religious worship. These exercises are conducted every morning, immediately after breakfast, in the mess-hall while it is redolent with the odors of the kitchen, thus distracting our attention and wounding our religious sensibilities. It is also necessary—to the moralization of every citizen who may be present, as well as to ourselves—that our public exhibitions and commencement exercises should be conducted in the same hall when the heat of summer is intensified by the fires of the bakery. We have not a sufficient number of recitation rooms, and nearly all we use are too small for the purpose. During the current session the professor of engineering has been dependent upon the courtesy of the other professors for a place in which to hear his classes, and can procure no room, at all adapted in size and exposure to light, for necessary practice in mechanical drawing. The library is too small for the books donated and purchased, and there is nothing attractive in its appointments either to visitors, professors or students. Our laboratory, in which has been done so much valuable work, not only in the instruction of young men, but in assisting the geological survey of the State, and furnishing analyses.

and other data for the United States census, is to be found in the cellar of the main building, filling the latter with disagreeable odors and gases, to the discomfort of all."

Is it necessary to add anything to the plain and pungent testimony of President Lewis to show that an additional building is an immediate and urgent necessity? The wise educator looks not alone to the intellectual and moral culture of the student, but also to the refinement of his tastes, and that healthy physical development without which the highest attainments must be barren and unfruitful; and all experience shows that the nature of their surroundings has much to do with the formation of the character of youth.

Besides the great want above presented, there are minor but important needs, if we would bring up and keep the University abreast with similar institutions in other States. Apparatus and appliances which, a few years ago, would have been esteemed ample for the purposes designed, and worthy of more highly endowed institutions of learning, the University now has. But the world moves, and science, the arts and invention move with it. To maintain her standing in the front rank, her professors must be provided with apparatus adapted to illustrate new discoveries, so that our students may learn, if they will, all that is known in any school of the University curriculum. How far we are below the standard at present, may be judged by an enumeration of some of the articles greatly needed. For example, in the Physical department a compound pendulum, a rotescope, analytical scales, hydrostatic balance, upward pressure apparatus, hydraulic ram and appendages, hydrostatic bellows, weight-lifter, Marnotte's vase, intermittent fountain, diving-bell, magic bottle, magic seive, vessels for spouting fluids, model water-wheels, Sprengel's air-pump, Geissler's tubes, electro-plating apparatus, large electro-magnet (mounted), water-decomposing apparatus, Thompson's electrometer, models of eye, microscopes, camera lucida, chronograph, and a number of other articles—costing together at catalogue prices about \$3,500.

The professor of chemistry amplifies the suggestion of the president with regard to the inadequate room accommodations for his classes. He says that in the chemical laboratory there is only table-room for twenty-five students, while the class largely exceeds that number, making it necessary to crowd two together at a table, when there is really room for only one.

The geological and mineralogical collections also require more space, many of them now being packed away in boxes and trays, and, of course, of no practical use. Another room is also needed for the geological survey collections, some of which are of much value.

The professor of civil engineering needs for present use: first, theodolites, sextants and other surveying and geodetic instruments; second, Darmstadt's models of bridges, roofs and other structures; third, books and models of projective, perspective, manuscript, and lithographic drawing. The total cost of supplying this department with the above-mentioned articles will amount to about \$3,500.

Having brought to your attention the more pressing needs of the University, may we not confidently hope that this General Assembly will rise to the importance of the occasion, and issue its potent fiat that the work go forward? Two years ago the Legislature came wisely and humanely to the aid of the Insane Asylum, whose magnificent proportions and beautiful grounds, within sight of the University, make the uncomeliness and meagreness of the University building more conspicuous by comparison. It was right and generous thus to minister to the mind diseased; but have not the sane youth of the State a right to ask that their condition be considered, their aspirations for learning be encouraged, and an opportunity afforded them, within the limits of their own State, for acquiring a liberal and thorough education? What gives more renown and glory to a State than a well equipped and endowed University—and what is more important to the varied interests of a commonwealth? It is a perennial fountain whence flow streams of life and light, ramifying all sections, and carrying health and blessing wherever they go. The more the State increases in population and material wealth, the greater is the need for the broad and comprehensive education of her sons, to fit them for the enlarged and more responsible duties which pertain to the growth and development of States.

This University holds a peculiar relation to the State. They began their existence nearly together; both were created by the liberality of the State of Georgia; and the first endowment of the University came from the lands specially reserved for that purpose in the treaty of cession.

The corporate name and style is "The University of Alabama"—the definite article being used; and by that name it has always been designated. Thus her name and fortunes are indissolubly connected with the State, and State pride might well be invoked to place her seat of learning in the proud position to which she aspires. We have not hitherto pressed any appeal for aid, because it was well known that, however willing the Legislature might be to make a grant, the condition of the State finances would not admit of a donation at all commensurate with the wants of the University. But now there is a surplus in the treasury, the assessed value of property in the State has largely increased, and

will continue to augment in an increased ratio in the future and the revenues, even with a reduced rate of taxation, will continue in excess of the requirements of the State government: so there is no good reason why a liberal and enlightened Legislature should not now appropriate such an amount as, in their judgment, may be sufficient to finish, at least, the building imperatively demanded by the pressure upon the University. All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIS G. CLARK,
E. MORGAN, .
N. H. R. DAWSON,
Committee of Trustees.

EXHIBIT A.

RECEIPTS ON ACCOUNT UNIVERSITY FUND, 1880-81.

1880.			
June 28	Balance in hands Treasurer this date.....	\$ 116 84	
	From Tuition fees.....	1,150 00	
	Diploma fees.....	21 75	
	Land lease and rents.....	175 80	
	State Treasurer	24,000 00	
	DISBURSEMENTS ON SAME ACCOUNT.		
	To Salaries of President, Professors, Tutors, Treasurer and Librarian.....		\$ 18,916 46
	Mechanic		499 91
	Contingent expenses.....		132 33
	Commutation for rent (paid Prof's).....		450 00
	Appropriation for music.....		120 00
	Repairs on barracks and kitchen.....		415 58
	Secretary Board of Trustees.....		250 00
	Digging well.....		50 00
	Chemicals		249 99
	Gas fixtures, pipes, etc., and labor fixing same.		1,425 76
	Prizes in oratory and drill.....		30 10
	Advertising		176 80
	University Magazine.....		25 00
	Law catalogue.....		40 00
	Mileage and per diem members Board Trustees		321 70
	District cadets.....		390 00
	Express charges.....		16 00
	Tuition refunded.....		50 00
	Rev. R. A. Tucker.		50 00
1881.			
July 2	To Balance in the hands of Treasurer.....		1,854 76
		\$ 25,464 39	\$ 25,464 39

EXHIBIT B.

RECEIPTS ON ACCOUNT UNIVERSITY FUND, 1881-S2.

1881.			
July 2	Balance in hands of Treasurer this date.....	\$ 1,854 76	
	From Tuition fees.....	1,230 00	
	Diploma.....	28 35	
	Land lease and rents.....	167 28	
	State Treasurer.....	24,000 00	
DISBURSEMENTS ON SAME ACCOUNT.			
	To Salaries of Presidents, Professors, Tutors, Treasurer and Librarian.....		\$ 18,126 74
	Commutation for rent paid Professors.....		337 50
	Mechanic		458 26
	Appropriation for music.....		120 00
	Chemicals		113 43
	Contingent fund.....		242 27
	Prizes in oratory and drill.....		50 00
	Secretary Board Trustees.....		250 00
	Mileage and per diem, Board of Trustees.....		229 85
	Catalogue.....		100 00
	Advertising.....		174 10
	Maps, charts and periodicals.....		88 25
	General repairs on buildings.....		362 12
	Cooking range.....		36 76
	Rt. Rev. S. S. Harris.....		100 00
	Fitting up section room.....		91 15
	Pump and apparatus.....		65 00
	Supplies for Professor of Astronomy.....		83 40
	Law Circular.....		14 00
	Tuition refunded.....		60 00
	Freight paid Railroad.....		3 60
	Law Professors.....		433 18
	Encyclopædia.....		22 00
1882.			
June 17	To balance in hands of Treasurer		5,718 78
		\$ 27,280 39	\$ 27,280 39

EXHIBIT C.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS ON GENERAL CADET FUND, FOR
1880-1881, AS SHOWN BY BOOKS OF TREASURER.

1880.			
June 30	Balance in hands of Treasurer at this date.....	\$ 2,902 40	
	From Cadets, on President's order.....	15,004 16	
	Professors for board.....	273 77	
	DISBURSEMENTS ON SAMR.		
	To Quartermaster (on checks of President).....		\$ 15,429 93
	Salary of Q. M. (on certificate of President) ..		1,000 46
1881.			
July 2	Balance in hands of Treasurer.....		1,749 94
		\$ 18,180 33	\$ 18,180 33

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS ON GENERAL CADET FUND, FOR
1881-1882, AS SHOWN BY THE BOOKS OF THE TREASURER.

1881.			
July 2	Balance in hands of Treasurer this day.....	\$ 1,749 94	
	From Cadets and Q. M. on President's order...	14,587 96	
	Professors for board.....	257 50	
	Balance due the Treasurer.....	581 34	
	DISBURSEMENTS ON SAME.		
	To Quartermaster on checks of President.		\$ 16,260 07
	Salary of Q. M., on certificate of President..		916 67
		\$ 17,176 74	\$ 17,176 74

1882.			
June 17	Balance Investment Fund in Treasurer's hands		\$ 2,357 20

EXHIBIT D.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FROM CADET
FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR OF 1880-1881, AS SHOWN BY
QUARTERMASTER'S BOOKS.

		RECEIPTS.	
Balance as per last report.....		\$	500 08
From Board of Officers and Cadets.....			10,062 63
Washing for Cadets.....			1,472 29
Fuel, Lights and Attendance.....			2,051 40
Surgeon's Fees.....			776 80
Library.....			261 00
Deposit for Damages.....			753 81
Treasurer, in aid of above receipts.....			1,152 46
		EXPENDITURES.	
To Subsistence.....		\$	9,507 18.
Washing.....			1,472 29
Fuel, Lights and Attendance.....			1,690 37
Surgeon's Fees.....			776 80
Library.....			261 00
Incidental Expenses.....			1,265 82
Refunded Cadets.....			890 45
Salary Quartermaster.....			1,000 46
Deposit with Treasurer.....			124 35
1881.			
July	1	Balance on hand.....	41 75
		\$	17,030 47
		\$	17,030 47

EXHIBIT E.

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FROM CADET
FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR OF 1881-1882, AS SHOWN BY
QUARTERMASTER'S BOOKS.**

1881.			
July	1	Balance on hand.....	\$ 41 75
		From Rent of Fowler House.....	135 00
		Sale of hogs.....	76 25
		Rent of Fowler House.....	127 50
		Board of Officers and Cadets.....	10,046 41
		Washing for Cadets.....	1,364 15
		Fuel, Lights and Attendance.....	2,186 54
		Surgeon's Fees.....	709 50
		Library.....	204 95
		Treasurer, in aid of above receipts.....	2,331 28
		EXPENDITURES.	
		To Subsistence.....	\$ 10,176 17
		Washing.....	1,364 15
		Fuel, Lights and Attendance.....	1,278 18
		Surgeon's Fees.....	709 50
		Hospital and medicines.....	513 70
		Library Fees.....	204 95
		Incidental and Miscellaneous Expenses.....	1,204 98
		Refunded to Cadets.....	782 89
		Salary of Quartermaster.....	916 67
1882.			
June	17	Balance in hands of Quartermaster.....	72 14
			<u>\$ 17,223 33</u>
			<u>\$ 17,223 33</u>